

PERMANENT ORE EXHIBIT GINGHED

The city council last night appropriated \$350 for a permanent mineral exhibit in Sumpter. The appropriation was made under that section of the charter which provides:

"The city of Sumpter may purchase, lease, hold or receive property, real or personal, within said city for public buildings, public water works . . . and all other municipal purposes; and may . . . purchase, hold and receive property, both real and personal, within or beyond the boundaries of the city, to be used for city parks, cemeteries, hospitals, . . . and for other useful, beneficial or ornamental purposes."

A petition for an appropriation for a permanent mineral exhibit here was presented to the council at the last regular meeting of that body on January 17, by Anthony Mohr, secretary of the Sumpter district branch of the Oregon Miners' association, who urged upon the council the advisability of encouraging any move which would tend to widely advertise this camp's richness, and thereby attract capital for investment.

The mayor and all members of the council heartily endorsed the project, but feared that the charter would not permit of an appropriation for the purpose named. The matter was therefore referred to the judiciary committee, with instructions to confer with the city attorney and report back to an adjourned meeting of the council, which was held last night. The judiciary committee failed to find any loophole in the charter, allowing an appropriation for such a purpose, and decided that the only course to pursue would be to appropriate a sum of money for fitting up a building for the department meetings, which might then be turned over by the fire department to the Miners' association for mineral exhibition purposes. The committee was prepared to report to this effect, when Secretary Mohr discovered and pointed out to the committee the provision quoted above.

As a permanent ore exhibit may correctly be considered both "useful, beneficial and ornamental," the legality of the appropriation cannot be questioned.

The old Vinson building, on Mill street, between Granite and North, opposite The Miner office, will be chosen as the permanent quarters of the exhibit. The building is owned by a lady in Seattle, A. P. Goss being the resident agent. The rent is merely nominal, and only a comparatively small sum will be required to remodel the interior.

The exhibit will be purely a city institution, but will be under the auspices of the Sumpter Miners' association, the secretary of which, Mr. Mohr, will personally attend to the work of gathering the exhibit and installing it in the most attractive manner.

Secretary Mohr announces that he will shortly call a meeting of the association, particularly of the big mine operators who are members, for the purpose of concluding arrangements

for an early delivery of ore for exhibition purposes.

As previously announced, the permanent ore exhibit will not be a specimen display. Instead, if Secretary Mohr's plans do not miscarry, it will consist of a collection of big pyramids of ore—500 or 1000 pounds each—properly labeled as to character, assay value, etc. Photographs of the quartz mills operating in this camp, and detail maps of the district, will adorn the walls, so that a visitor at a glance may determine the bigness of the mineral industry in eastern Oregon.

Too much praise cannot be accorded Mayor Gleason and the members of the council for the liberality and public spirit displayed by them in carrying to a successful consummation the permanent exhibit plan. It is evident that a spirit of push pervades the atmosphere of the city hall. Last week Mayor Gleason, when referring the exhibit matter to the judiciary committee, sounded the keynote of the new administration's policy, by saying: "The council must build up Sumpter. That is what the council is for."

Last night, he further outlined this policy by cordially inviting all citizens of Sumpter, who have the interests of the city at heart, and who have plans or propositions for Sumpter's material welfare and advancement, to meet with the council and present such plans, assuring them that if it is within the council's power, aid and encouragement will be invariably forthcoming.

Mr. Gleason said:

"Gentlemen, we have now passed upon this matter, which has always had my heartiest support, and is evident to me that we are entering upon an era of unanimity in the council upon matters pertaining to the welfare and advancement of this city. During my previous term of office, I adopted the open-hand policy of consulting with my associates in the council and with the people of Sumpter. I wish now to extend to the business men of this city an invitation to attend the deliberations of this body and to bring before us any matter pertaining to the advancement of Sumpter. I can assure them that they will meet with the heartiest support from myself and the council. And I wish the citizens of Sumpter to understand that as long as I occupy the position of mayor I will be ever ready to listen to any suggestion for our welfare from them."

The sentiments as expressed by the mayor met with hearty applause from the other members of the council and from the business men present.

The formal motion to appropriate \$350 for the mineral exhibit was made by Councillman McWatty and was seconded by Mr. Stewart. The vote was unanimous.

Secretary Mohr announces that he is arranging to secure a four-year lease on the Vinson building, and guarantees that the exhibit will be maintained by the Miners' association for at least that length of time.

RICH COBALT-GOLD ORE FROM STANDARD

Assistant Engineer Kuehn, of the Killeu, Warner, Stewart company, returned yesterday from the Standard mine, where he has been engaged during the past month in making surface and underground surveys. He has fitted up a draughting room in the K. W. S. offices on lower Mill street and will at once reduce his field notes to detail and topographic maps.

Engineer Kuehn returned with a complete line of samples from the Standard, selected with great care from the various payshoots in this multi-metalled mine, where copper, gold, cobalt, silver, nickel and other valuable minerals are so abundant.

The recently completed laboratory in connection with the K. W. S. offices will shortly be equipped with an electrolytic apparatus, and preparations are under way to supplement the elaborate test to be made in Denver by Prof. Nicholson, by thorough analysis in the local laboratory. Prof. Nicholson, chief consulting engineer for the K. W. S. Co., and general western manager of the various properties under its control, departed yesterday for Denver, accompanying a 16-ton shipment of Standard ore, which will be used in a test to determine the character of reduction works to be erected at the mine in the spring.

Engineer Kuehn surveyed a site at the Standard for the proposed mill and ran levels for two new tunnels.

Some of the gold-cobalt ore specimens brought back by Mr. Kuehn are almost fabulously rich.

WONDERFUL OLD AZTEC MINES

Mark W. Musgrove, pioneer mining man of this city, who is known in most mining camps on the Pacific coast, has returned home after a visit of several months to the old Aztec mines in southern Colorado. These mines are twenty-five miles southwest of Mancos, a town on the Rio Grande Southern railway. Regarding these wonderful mines, Mr. Musgrove said:

"Located high on the mountain side, the mines command the most magnificent view of the world; and show to what length the Aztec sense of the beautiful must have been developed. As one rides gradually up toward the mines the grandeur and magnificence of the view of hill, dale and monster crag dawns upon one. At the labor and skill of this so-called savage race, a man of today can but wonder. Here are cities that covered a thousand acres; and in the town are to be found single buildings of 100 rooms—and some of these buildings are today almost as perfect as at the time they were finished. In these cities were vast auditoriums, where the multitudes must have gathered. There were public squares in which had been built public or baptismal fountains; and at present many of these ruins are far out on the desert, miles from the running water of today.

"Beneath some of the ruins pottery has been uncovered, and has the appearance of having been used for cooking purposes; and other pottery has been found that is as bright and

new as though it had never been used.

"Most remarkable of all, perhaps, are the remains of an irrigation system that must have been one of the greatest pieces of that class of work ever carried through by engineers, ancient or modern. So vast were the flumes carrying this water that mountains were cleft to make way for the projects.

"The present tenants of these lands, the Utes and Navajo Indians, are as interesting as the ruins by which they are surrounded. Although these tribes herd their cattle, goats and sheep on the same ranges and trade at the same stores, the one cuts his hair short and the other wears his hair long. The Navajo women weavers make blankets that when folded hold water; and the Ute women wouldn't make a blanket if it were to save their lives. Navajo Indians are expert jewelers, fashioning beautiful bracelets and ornaments from silver; but the Ute Indians can do nothing of the kind. I found that some of these Indian jewelers make perfect Masonic emblems, causing me to believe that at some time they must have been up in Masonic rights.

"Added to the mysteries I have just related is the mystery of lost rivers, madly flowing streams rushing along, only to disappear in the earth and be seen no more. Such are the things to be found in the district ten miles from the four corners, the corners where Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico and Utah meet.

"But this country is also great in its resources. Huge coal veins, in many places showing on the surface to be from six feet to fifty feet in width, run through the country. Copper deposits, some of them very rich in native copper, are to be found in the hills. In some of the canyons natural flows of oil are to be found, some of them without work having been done seeping five or six barrels of oil per day. Placer deposits are both rich and extensive and are near the surface, the gold being fine and flaky, getting coarser and heavier as work proceeds to bed rock. Prospects have been found frequently showing as many as 200 colors to the pan. These bars extend for miles, and conservative miners estimate that they would yield 50 cents per cubic yard on the average, although running much more at places. There are no large bowlders and no cement gravel—and ample coal and water is to be had.

"Many miners are taking out from \$3 to \$5 per day with the rocker. For dredge work the low bars could be worked with a dredge at 2 cents per yard. The high bars could be worked with giants. So far the great trouble has been to divert the waters of the San Juan river."—Spokesman-Review.

Pendleton Railroad Builders.

Articles of reincorporation will be filed this week by the Pendleton & Southern railway with the county clerk. The reason given is that the actual builders' names will appear then and the capital will be raised from, \$10,000 to a sufficient sum to make the survey and build the road. The possibilities of this proposed road are immense. It will reach into a hitherto isolated country, in central Oregon, rich in minerals, lumber, stock and agricultural products.

The smelter today shipped out two carloads of high grade matte.